



The Florida Caribbean Cruise Association plays Santa for Aruban children

The joy of giving is one of the great pleasures of the holiday season, particularly for those that donated their time to giving toys to children of families that might not be able to afford to give them. Twenty members of the crew of the Brilliance of the Seas, part of the Royal Caribbean line experienced that joy on Friday afternoon, December 15. They volunteered their time as part of the FCCA program that donated toys to the less fortunate on islands all over the Caribbean.

Where ever they have a port of call, the cruise line conducts an afternoon that allows their crew members, most of them management, to enjoy the look of delight on children's faces as they hand out a wide assortment of toys for all ages.

This year, no one particular group was chosen as beneficiaries of this annual tradition, and the children receiving an early gift from Santa included members of LIFIDA, the youth soccer league, aside from the mentally and physically challenged. Marketing and Revenue Manager of the Brilliance of the Seas, Carl Eggeling reported that the FCCA has thirty-two different ports of call in the Caribbean where they conduct this program. He also revealed that he had just switched ships, so was able to enjoy the same pleasant task in St. Lucia, where a children's orphanage was the beneficiary of the cruise association's largesse.

After distributing the gifts in the Chapel of the Instituto di Cultura in Oranjestad, the crew, the children, and their parents were treated to soft drinks and snacks, making it a real Christmas party for all involved!